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10/691,445	10/22/2003	Viktor Kaptelinin	525-056.2	8099

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EXAMINER

PHAM, KHANH B

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2166

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/691,445

Applicant(s)

KAPTELININ, VIKTOR

Examiner

Khanh B. Pham

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.138(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-848)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/26/04, 12/17/04
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. **Claims 1-34** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Estrada (US 2003/0135565 A1), hereinafter "**Estrada**".

As per claim 1, Estrada teaches a method providing support for project information management comprising:

- "creating a memory storage containing individual description of each project listed in a group of projects, each description comprising one or more properties, said properties selected from a group consisting of at least: "name, deadline, color, icon, status, importance, and urgency" at [0094] - [0095] and Figs. 1-2;
- "said storage also containing descriptions of information objects related to each project listed in said group of project" at [0102] and Figs. 5, 9;
- "said information objects selected from a group consisting of at least: computer files and folders, computer applications, electronic documents and their parts,

web pages, computer network address, electronic messages, computer network transmissions, computer network connections, computer device descriptions, computer preferences and setting, user identities, user profiles and accounts, computer system-generated reports and collections, user interface components, virtual reality objects, electronic images, computer models, and personal information management system entries" at [0102] and Fig. 9;

- "indicating one project of said group of projects as an active project" at [0118] and Fig. 24;
- "detecting, through a first detecting means, an event generated by one of at least one computer application and at least one operating system when a user-action is carried out with at least one information object, the user action selected from a list consisting of at least: creating, deleting, activating, inactivating, selecting, deselecting, opening, closing, viewing, sending, receiving, downloading, uploading, accessing over network, sharing, archiving, printing out, playing, pausing, saving, copying, moving, modifying, or editing said at least one information object" at [0118] and Figs. 24-25
- "detecting, through a third detecting means, whether at least one of the information object described in said event is not contained in said list of information objects related to said active project" at [0118], [0169];
- and if said at least one information object described in said event is not contained in said list of information objects related to said active project, then adding a

description of said at least one information object to said list of information object related to said active project" at [0118] and Figs. 24-25;

- "viewing and editing lists of project-related information objects" at [0119];
- "opening an information object from a list of project-related information object" at [0119];
- "whereby an organization and accumulation of information objects related to individual projects of a user is accomplished in the computer system, thus enabling the user to directly access project-related information objects when work on a project is resumed after an intermission" at Fig. 26.

As per claim 2, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 1, comprising detecting an event generated upon a user-action being carried out through first detecting means and through second detecting means further detecting which project is active when the event is generated at [0118] and further comprising the step of:

- "creating an entry to a database containing interaction history, said entry comprising at least: time of the event, type of user-action, information object or objects used, and the project, which is active at the time of the event" at Figs. 11, 22, 26;
- "whereby identifying a sub-set of entries in the interaction history database, linked to an individual project, enables a user to update, modify, or generate a list of information objects related to said individual project, through an updating, modifying, or generating means" at Fig. 26.

As per claim 3, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 2, comprising "manual viewing and editing of entries in the interaction history database" at [0119].

As per claim 4, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 2, further comprising editing of entries in the interaction history database through manual editing or algorithm-based processing, and storing both unedited and edited versions of the interaction history in a computer memory" at [0119].

As per claim 5, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of: visualizing information in the interaction history database as statistical charts and timeline or timelines" at [0016] and Fig. 14.

As per claim 6, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of: processing the interaction history database by converting a pre-processed sequence of three or more identical events into a processed sequence, said processed sequence containing the first and the last events of the pre-processed sequence" at Fig. 11.

As per claim 7, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 2, further comprising the steps of: assigning ranks to project-related resources, wherein resources accessed with a frequency, which exceeds a predetermined value, are assigned a higher rank than a default rank assigned to a resource accessed once;

edited and saved documents, bookmarked web pages, manually entered URLs, answered messages, messages marked as important, renamed folders, and folders, in which files are saved, are assigned a still higher rank; resources opened for less than a first predetermined amount of time are assigned a rank, lower than a default rank assigned to a resource accessed once; and resources not used for more than a second predetermined amount of time are assigned a rank, lower than a default rank assigned to a resource accessed once; and selectively displaying resources with predetermined ranks as directly displayed on lists of project-related resources and other resources being displayed, indirectly, if an additional operation is carried out; and setting options for directly and indirectly displaying project-related resources with different ranks" at Fig. 26.

As per claim 8, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 2, comprising "manual viewing and editing of a part of the interaction history database related to an indicated project-related resource, such as a file, a computer folder, a URL, a message, or an email address, said part of the interaction history database displayed as a text, a statistical chart, or timeline diagram representing the use of the said indicated resource in one or several projects" at [0016, 0136] and Figs. 9-14.

As per claim 9, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of: "displaying visual clues indicating for how long individual projects are not active" at Fig. 13.

As per claim 10, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of: providing a personal information management system comprising tools selected from the group consisting of at least: calendar, To Do lists, and notes; wherein entries to the personal information management system are linked to projects, which are active when the entries are being made" at [0100] and Fig. 22 .

As per claim 11, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of: "displaying one of a minimized and a maximized view of project description and personal information management tools; and switching between the minimized and the maximized views selectively at command" at Figs. 10-11.

As per claim 12, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of: "displaying project-related information in a calendar in a color associated with a given project" at [0101].

As per claim 13, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 10, comprising "manually creating a description of a project" at Fig. 2 and further comprising the steps of "creating a description of parts of the project or subtasks; and marking one of the subtasks as the active subtask" at Fig. 13.

As per claim 14, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 13, further comprising the steps of: "relating project-related information objects and personal

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information management system entries to specific subtasks, which are active when said resources are used and said entries are made; and if no subtask is selected, then displaying all project-related information objects and personal information management system entries, and if a subtask is selected, then displaying only those project-related information objects and personal information management system entries, which are related to the said subtask" at [0024]-[0025] and Figs. 13.

As per claim 15, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

- "providing personal information management tools selected from the group consisting of at least: calendar, To Do lists, and notes; wherein entries to said personal information management system are linked to projects, which are active when said entries are being made" at [0014]-[0015] and Figs. 3-14; and
- "creating an entry to a database containing interaction history when a user-action is carried out with an information object, wherein said entry at least comprises one of: time of the event, type of user-action, information object or objects used, and the project, which is active at the time of the event" at Figs. 3-14.

As per claim 16, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of: "generating through document generating means a document containing a description of a specific project, said project description containing information types selected from a group consisting of at least: project name, project

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deadline, a description of project color, a description of project icon, a list of project's sub-projects with their respective deadlines, whether the project is completed or not, names of project-related files and folders, a list of project-related URLs, a list of project-related email addresses, headers of recent or all messages sent within the project, list of all or recent events in project's interaction history, a statistical description of project's interaction histories, project-related notes and To Do entries, project-related calendar entries; and Selectively defining, which types of information to be included in a project description" at Figs. 2-14.

As per claim 17, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of: "coloring areas of a calendar view representing time units, such as days, weeks, or months, of a predetermined period in the past with colors associated with the projects worked on during said time units, wherein the proportion of the area colored in a project's color is substantially proportional to the amount of time spent on that project" at [0101] and Figs. 4B, 14.

As per claim 18, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of: "detecting the subset of project-specific resources of an active project, which are open at the moment when the project becomes not active; and storing a description of the subset of project-related information objects in computer memory; and when the project becomes active again, providing means for opening the

subset of project-related information objects corresponding to said memory-stored description" at [0040]-[0044].

As per claim 19, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of: "creating at least one computer folder, and moving or copying all or part of project-related computer files and folders to said at least one computer folder, or placing shortcuts to all or part of project-related computer files and folders to said at least one computer folder" at [0114]-[0118].

As per claim 20, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of: "organizing all or part of project-related information objects related to one or more projects, copies of the information objects, or links to the information objects, in at least one predetermined computer folder for subsequent distribution of work between several devices, which at least one work distribution computer folder is then copied to a memory storage device, sent over a computer network, or synchronized with another computing device; and wherein the work on a project is coordinated employing a variety of computer devices" at [0019]-[0020] and [0114]-[0118].

As per claim 21, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 20, further comprising the steps of: "detecting if new information objects have been added to existing information objects or updated in at least one work distribution computer folder;

and if there are new or updated information objects in the at least one work distribution computer folder, then adding, creating or updating events to an interaction history database and updating lists of project-related information objects" at [0019]-[0020].

As per claim 22, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of: "organizing project-related information objects into sets, the sets being selected from the group consisting of at least: applications, documents, folders, URLs, messages, and contacts; and Viewing and editing the sets separately" at Figs. 3-14.

As per claim 23, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of: "indicating a set of information objects, which information objects should be ignored and not added to lists of project-related information objects when a user-action involving one or more information objects from the said set of information objects is carried out" at [0031].

As per claim 24, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of: "marking a project-related information object or information objects as bound to a specific project; and activating the specific project when a bound information object is selected" at [0028]-[0032].

As per claim 25, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 24, comprising "marking a project-related information object or information objects as bound to a specific project and further comprising the step of: displaying, when a bound information object is selected, a dialog window and providing means for selecting at least one of: (a) making the project, to which the bound information object is linked, active, (b) accessing the bound information object without making changes as to which project is active, and (c) canceling access to the bound information object" at [0028]-[0032] and Figs. 2-9.

As per claim 26, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of: "assigning ranks to project-related information objects; and displaying lists of project-related information objects, so that information objects having the same rank are displayed as grouped together" at Fig. 26.

As per claim 27, Estrada teaches the method according to claim 1, wherein "items on lists of project-related information objects are displayed as objects located in a two-dimensional or three-dimensional space" at Fig. 26.

Claims 28-34 recite an apparatus for performing a similar method as discussed in claims 1-27 and are rejected by the same reasons.

Conclusion

Examiner's Note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers and figures in the references applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant.

Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner.

In the case of amending the Claimed invention, Applicant is respectfully requested to indicate the portion(s) of the specification which dictate(s) the structure relied on for proper interpretation and also to verify and ascertain the metes and bounds of the claimed invention.

The prior art made of record, listed on form PTO-892, and not relied upon, if any, is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

If a reference indicated as being mailed on PTO-FORM 892 has not been enclosed in this action, please contact Lisa Craney whose telephone number is (571) 272-3574 for faster service.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khanh B. Pham whose telephone number is (571) 272-

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4116. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:30am to 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on (571) 272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Khanh B. Pham
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2166

March 19, 2007

